

Attorney's Docket: 2002DE130
Serial No.: 10666,313
Group: 1713

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 18, 2005, has been carefully considered together with each of the references cited therein. The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action. The amendments made herein are fully supported by the Application as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, reconsideration of the present Application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-5, 17, 21-23 and 40-42 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 1 and cancelled claim 17.

Claim Objection

Claim 17 stands objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of the now cancelled claim 17.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102 and 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 23 and 42 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Well et al. (US Patent 5,578,668) as evidence by Langford (US Pub. 2001/0011112). Claims 2-5 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Well et al. (US Patent 5,578,668) as applied to claim 1 above, and in further view of Jenewein et al. (US Patent 6,365,071). Claims 21-22 and 40-41 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Well et al. (US Patent 5,578,668) as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Garais et al. (US Patent 6,084,012).


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It is respectfully believed that all of the aforementioned §102 and §103 rejections have been overcome by the amendment to claim 1 which has imported therein the subject matter of now cancelled claim 17.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully contended that claim 1 and all claims depending there from are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants courteously request reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 and § 103 rejections.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the present Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, she is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,


Anthony A. Bliska
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 40,813

(CUSTOMER NUMBER 25,255)

Clariant Corporation
Industrial Property Department
4000 Monroe Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28206
Phone: (704) 331-7151
Fax: (704) 331-7707